

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SY-10 OPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01

AID-20 EB-11 DRC-01 /201 W
----- 108496

R 111730Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1507

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL CURACAO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 459

CARACAS FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, NS

SUBJECT: PNR TO GET MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND POLICE

1. SUMMARY. THE APPORTIONMENT OF MINISTRIES AMONG THE PARTIES OF THE NPK-BLOC, WHILE NOT YET OFFICIAL, APPEARS TO BE COMPLETE. THERE IS WIDELY FELT SURPRISE AND CONCERN OVER THE ALLOCATION OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND POLICE TO THE LEFTIST PNR. THIS HAS UNFAVORABLE IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, THE DIVISION OF MINISTRIES AMONG THE PARTIES OF THE VICTORIOUS NPK COALITION IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE. THE NPS, THE LARGER OF THE COALITION PARTIES, WILL HAVE SIX OF THE 13 CABINET POSITIONS INCLUDING THE MINISTRIES OF GENERAL AFFAIRS (WHICH CARRIES WITH IT THE PREMIERSHIP), FINANCE, DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC WORKS, EDUCATION, AND DISTRICT MANAGEMENT. THE NPS WILL ALSO REPORTEDLY APPOINT
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THE CABINET LEVEL POSITION OF MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY IN THE HAGUE. THE LEFTIST PNR WILL RECEIVE THREE MINISTRIES:

JUSTICE AND POLICE, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. THE MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS (GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION) WILL FALL TO THE PSV (CATHOLIC) WHILE THE INDONESIAN KTPI WILL GET AGRICULTURE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

3. THERE IS GREAT CONCERN IN CONSERVATIVE AND MODERATE POLITICAL CIRCLES, AND IN THE PNR ITSELF, OVER THE ALLOCATION OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND POLICE TO THE PNR. REPORTEDLY, PNR CHAIRMAN EDDY BRUMA DEMANDED THIS AS HIS IRREDUCIBLE PRICE FOR REMAINING IN THE GOVERNMENT. PNR CHAIRMAN AND GOVERNMENT FORMATEUR HENK ARRON'S AGREEMENT TO BRUMA'S DEMAND REPRESENTS A DANGEROUS CONCESSION. FOR A GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS NO ARMY AT ITS DISPOSAL, THE MINISTRY WHICH CONTROLS THE POLICE IS OBVIOUSLY OF CONSIDERABLE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE. DESPITE THE RECENT MODERATE STAND WHICH THE PNR HAS ADOPTED FOR TACTICAL REASONS, IT HAS ADVOCATED IN THE RECENT PAST IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE AND EXPROPRIATION OF LARGE FOREIGN ENTERPRISES. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT CONSIDERED A COMMUNIST PARTY, BRUMA AND THE PNR HAVE WARM FRATERNAL RELATIONS WITH GUYANA'S CHEDDI JAGAN. AT A LOCAL PNR-SPONSORED THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO (THERE WERE NO FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES), CUBA, CHINA, NORTH KOREA, AND NORTH VIETNAM WERE THE COUNTRIES SINGLED OUT FOR ADMIRING STUDY.

4. THE IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. INTERESTS ARE CLEAR. IN THE LIKELY EVENT THAT THE PNR CONTROLS THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND POLICE, THAT PARTY WILL HAVE CONSIDERABLY MORE INFLUENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT THAN ANTICIPATED. THE PNR WILL BE IN A GREATLY ENHANCED POSITION TO ADVANCE ITS POLICIES, WHICH RUN COUNTER TO U.S. INTERESTS IN PROTECTING U.S. INVESTMENTS AND IN THE EXISTENCE OF A GENERALLY FRIENDLY PRO-WESTERN GOVERNMENT IN SURINAM.

JOHNSTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARAMA00459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARAMARIBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731232/aaaaaxft.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PNR TO GET MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND POLICE
TAGS: PINT, NS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005